

REMARKS

Claims 3-8, 14 and 17-20 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 7 is amended. Claims 1, 2, 9, 11-13, 15 and 16 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representative by Examiner Kovalick at the interview held June 6, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein). Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

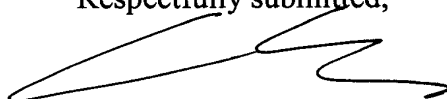
Applicants gratefully acknowledge that claims 3-6, 14 and 17-20 are allowed. By this Amendment, claim 7 is amended to depend from allowed claim 3. The rejections with respect to claims 1, 2, 9, 11-13, 15 and 16 are moot because they are canceled by this Amendment, placing this application in condition for allowance.

In accordance with the above remarks, independent claims 3, 4, 17, 18, 19 and 20 define patentable subject matter. Claims 5-8 and 14 depend from claim 3, and therefore, are also patentable for the same reason, as well as for the additional features they recite. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 3-8, 14, and 17-20 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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